

# THE NATIONAL NEGRO BUSINESS LEAGUE.

The Fifth Annual Session of the National Negro Business League will be called to order by Booker T. Washington, the President, Wednesday, August 31, in Tomlinson Hall, Indianapolis, Ind., and will continue in session for three days. The program has just gone to press and is representative of the high purposes of the League, being confined to men and women who have actually succeeded in business,—example being considered more important than theoretical discussion not buttressed by tangible achievement. Among other subjects to be discussed are the following:

"The Negro Publisher," "The Story of a Thirty-Six Years' Business Experience," "The Furniture Business," "White Coat Manufacturing," "Building up a Grocery Business," "Cigar Manufacturing," "Undertaking," "Fraternals and Industrial Insurance," "Meeting the Realty Needs of the Negro People," "Establishing and Maintaining Barber Shops," "Making Farming Pay," "Producing White Potatoes on a Large Scale," "The Negro's Success in Silk Culture," "The Growth of the Banking Idea," "The Affinity of Law and Business," "Building a Street Railway Line," "Photography," "Soda and Mineral Water Manufacturing," "Building an Industrial Community,"—story after story of success won in spite of many difficulties by men who represent the wealth of the Negroes of the country.

These meetings of the National Negro Business League have proved incalculably helpful and successful. They inspire help and confidence and more than that, they afford opportunity for giving to the world examples of which it knew not of Negro thrift and accomplishment.

For the Indianapolis meeting, reduced rates of one and one-third fare ON THE CERTIFICATE PLAN have been granted by all of the various Passenger Associations of the country, and, in addition, an extension of the return limit may be secured by depositing validated certificates with agents of the Indianapolis terminal lines on or before September 6. By this arrangement opportunity will be afforded for visiting St. Louis or any other point desired.

The entertainment of the delegates to the Business League will be an especial feature of the coming meeting. The Indianapolis Commercial Club has expressed its interest by a special communication to Mr. George L. Knox, Chairman of the Local Committee of Arrangements. A street car ride about the city, with outing at Fairview Park, has been arranged for the afternoon of the second day; on Friday evening, the Local Business League and citizens of Indianapolis will tender a banquet in Tomlinson Hall in honor of the officers and members of the National Negro Business League. Last year at Nashville the Fisk Jubilee Singers rendered selections all through the three days' sessions so acceptably and pleasingly that the Local Committee at Indianapolis has arranged for a Select Chorus of one hundred voices to sing during the coming meeting.

A special exhibit of photographs illustrating the development of business enterprises among the Negro people of the United States will be an especial feature of the coming meeting, and will be shown in the corridors of Tomlinson Hall. Such photographs will be welcomed if sent AT ONCE to Booker T. Washington, President, Tuskegee, Alabama. Delegates, intending to be present, are especially requested to notify Emmett J. Scott, corresponding secretary, Tuskegee, Ala., and Dr. S. A. Furniss, Secretary Local Committee of Arrangements, 132 West New York Street, Indianapolis. Dr. Furniss will be glad to arrange for the proper accommodations of delegates.

## NICKERSON-LEWIS.

A Notable Event in the City's Colored Society.

A notable event in the upper circle of colored society was the marriage on Wednesday, August 3, of Prof. Wm. J. Nickerson and Miss Julia Ellen Lewis. The groom is well known in musical and educational circles, having been for the past twelve years the Principal of Southern University's musical department, and the director of Nickerson's Ladies' Orchestra. The bride is a daughter of Colonel James Lewis, Surveyor General of the United States Land Office, New Orleans, who is deservedly esteemed for his integrity and character in public and in private life. Miss Lewis received a thorough education in music, and is a



MRS. JULIA ELLEN LEWIS  
NICKERSON.

graduate, in music and drawing, of the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston. In October, 1900, she was appointed supervisor of drawing in the city public schools for colored children, and was reappointed every year until this session, when she tendered her resignation.

The wedding of Prof. Nickerson and Miss Lewis took place at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. F. Nugent performed the ceremony in the presence of an immense concourse of people that filled the church to the doors. Several selections on the organ and the violin were played during the ceremony by members of Nickerson's Orchestra. James Lewis was best man, Miss Frankie V. Lewis, maid of honor, little Selina Boisseau, flower girl, little Etta Lewis niece of the bride, was

ring-bearer, and the bridesmaids were Misses Deborah V. Johnson and Leona A. Deluc. Henry M. Maxwell, Albert Wicker, Joubert Lewis and George Collins were the ushers.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of Colonel Lewis, No. 2415 Canal Street, and at 8 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Nickerson left on a bridal tour. They will be at home Sept. 1, at No. 1918 Conti Street.

The presents received by the newly wedded couple were very numerous and costly, comprising silverware and cut-glass, handsome sets of parlor, bedroom and dining-room ornaments and hundreds of articles de luxe and of usefulness.

The parlors could not hold the large gathering of friends that called, bearing gifts and best wishes, and it was found necessary to utilize the lawn, over which a shelter of canvas was stretched, and this additional space served for the spreading of the wedding supper. The house and grounds were handsomely illuminated and decorated and the hospitality extended by Colonel Lewis was continued far beyond the stated hour at which the bridal couple was to leave so as to take the train for St. Louis.—N. O. Daily Picayune.

## I WILL NOT SING THIS OLD SONG.

For the Colored American.

I will not sing this old song  
If it brings regret or pain,  
If its tender memory recalls  
Dead memories again.  
If its simple strains are hallowed  
By thoughts of friends now dead,  
I'll not arouse the anguish  
Of hopes forever fled.

I will not sing this old song  
If it causes tears to rise—  
Such tears would fail to ease thy heart  
Or check those bitter sighs;  
If it revives that passion  
In thy bosom soothed at last,  
Recalls a hopeless vision  
From the loved and buried past.

I will not sing this old song,  
Though the air is sad and sweet—  
Though the dear old music thrills me  
As its burden I repeat,  
I will forbear to breathe it,  
Though others it delight,  
Since it has a spell that grieves thee,  
I'll not sing the song to-night.  
—R. W. T., Columbus, O.

Go with the Amphions Saturday, August 20th, and keep cool. Last chance of the season.

Miss Sara L. Tufts of Albany, N. Y., has been appointed Directress of the Nurses at Freedmen's Hospital, taking the place made vacant by the retirement of Mrs. Sara I. Fleetwood. Miss Tufts' name was first on the list of eligibles and she was appointed according to Civil Service regulations.

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